BLM News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEENS MOUNTAIN LOOP ROAD OPEN TO EAST RIM OVERLOOK

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Burns District has opened the north side of the Steens Mountain Loop Road to the East Rim Overlook. The portion of the road between the East Rim Overlook and the Rooster Comb area will remain closed to motor vehicles due to impassible road conditions, preventing travel around the entire Loop Road. The road from the East Rim Overlook to Wildhorse Lake Overlook is also closed at this time. The south side of the Loop Road remains open from Highway 205 to the Rooster Comb gate, just past South Steens Campground.

Travelers are encouraged to drive carefully and avoid wet and muddy side roads until they dry out later in the summer season. Visitors should also travel only on designated open roads, and should be prepared for rapid weather changes over the holiday weekend and severe storms at times.

With access permitted to the East Rim Overlook, Jackman Park Campground is open and in full service, with fees of \$6.00 per vehicle per night in effect. Amenities at Jackman Park include six campsites, a vault toilet, picnic tables with grills, garbage cans, and drinking water. With Little Blitzen Gorge and Wildhorse Lake nearby, sightseeing, picnicking, and cross-country hiking are popular activities.

For more information on designated open roads, current road conditions, or recreation opportunities, or to obtain maps of the area, visit the Burns District Office at 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon, call (541) 573-4400, weekdays, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or check the Burns District BLM Web site at http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns.